

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | September 23, 2020

Ward County Fatal Crash

What: Fatal Crash

Where: 209th St NW/ jct of Hwy 52 (5.5miles S of Carpio)

When: September 22, 2020 at approximately 1027hrs CST

Road Conditions: Good

Weather Conditions: Clear

Crash Involvement: One tractor and one locomotive

Type of Crash: Angle

Agencies Involved: North Dakota Highway Patrol, Ward County Sheriff's Office, Community Ambulance, Carpio Fire, and Berthold Fire.

Vehicle No. 1: Locomotive
Engineer No. 1: Jeremy Thorson, male, 43, Harvey, ND; not injured.
Restraints: n/a
Charges: under investigation

Vehicle No. 2: 2020 Fendt 716 Tractor
Operator No. 2: Zack Helmers, male, 26, Kenmare, ND; fatal injuries.
Restraints: n/a
Charges: under investigation

NARRATIVE: Helmers was mowing the ditches along Highway 52 near 209th Street NW. Helmers crossed over to the eastside of the railroad tracks on 209th street NW. A person on-scene witnessed Helmers then backing over the railroad tracks. While backing over the railroad tracks, a locomotive traveling northbound on the railway struck the side of Helmers' tractor. Helmers was pronounced dead on scene due to injuries sustained from the crash. The crash is still under investigation by the North Dakota Highway Patrol.



For More Information Contact:

Sgt. Adrian Martinez 701-328-2467
amartine@nd.gov

Northwest Region | 223 East Broadway, Suite 304 | Williston, ND 58801
PHONE: (701) 328-2467 | FAX: (701) 774-4355 | ND.gov/NDHP